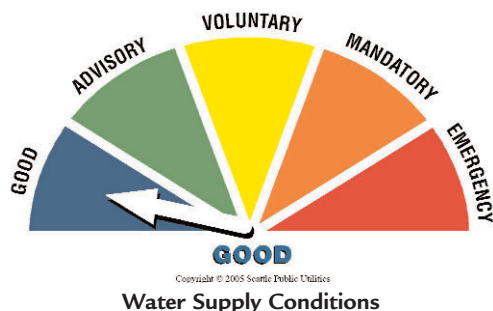




INFORMATION UPDATE FOR WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/News/Newsletters/index.asp



Lead and Copper Rule

The lead and copper sampling schedule and allocation for those utilities participating in the regional monitoring program has been e-mailed. If you would like a hard copy, please let us know. SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.

Stage 2 DBP Rule

Just a reminder – All purveyors will need to submit their Stage 2 DBP plans to the EPA by October 1, 2006. That's only three months away. SPU will be providing a training session regarding sample collection for this rule. The specific date and time will be provided in the July edition of the LEAK.



Water Quality Technical Forum Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data

There were no positive coliform samples in purveyor areas during May 2006. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.5 to 1.0 mg/L, with an overall average of 0.8 mg/L. The target chlorine residual at the Tolt Treatment facility is 1.5 mg/L and the Cedar target residual is 1.4 mg/L. There have been very few samples with chlorine less than 0.2 mg/L and no positive HPC samples.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel is meeting every week beginning in June. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the Cedar supply (Lake Youngs treated) samples in May were 1.9 to 2.4. The two Tolt supply results were 1.3 and 1.8 with a slight chlorinous taste. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert at moya.joubert@seattle.gov. The spring algae bloom is now over in Lake Youngs.



Conservation Technical Forum

On the web at <http://www.savingwater.org>

Upcoming Conservation Technical Forum Meeting

Our next conservation technical forum will be held July 11th 10am – 12pm at Soos Creek. If you have an agenda item you would like to discuss, or something you would like to know more about, please send me your topic or request. Thanks to Marci Oda for agreeing to host the upcoming meeting!

CONTACT: Arece Hampton (206) 733-9137

MARKETING

Regional Conservation Benchmark Survey Development

The scope of work for the 2006 regional water conservation benchmark survey has been developed and survey design is underway. Fielding is planned for early July. After the survey is fielded, we will attempt to match respondents to account billing data for additional analysis

looking at the relationship between responses and water use patterns.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855

YOUTH EDUCATION

Award Winning Summer Youth Campaign Heats Up

Once again, the popular Waterbusters ad will be aired on KCPQ 13 and WB 22 television stations. The ad, featuring Bert the Salmon and his sidekick Phil Dumpster. A new website is being created that will make navigation to the game easier and more fun. The ad will run from July to September during vacation months for kids in the targeted 7-12 age range. This will be the third year for the ad promotion and game which recently won the PNWS AWWA Youth Education Award at the annual conference in Spokane.

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570

RESIDENTIAL INDOOR

PORTLAND ENERGY CONSERVATION

Portland Energy Conservation Inc in Portland, Oregon is now our contractor for processing WashWise rebates. Questions concerning the program and requests for forms should be directed to the hotline number at 1-866-632-4636 or email them at WashWiseRebate@peci.org. PECE has already processed 1,200 rebates.

CONTACT: Billie Fisher, (206) 615-1282

Showerhead Aerator Distribution Program

The program to distribute below code showerheads and aerators region wide has been delayed in order to give Puget Sound Energy time to become a partner in the program. An additional pilot will be conducted in PSE's service territory to collect data. Staff believes it would be a great opportunity to collect more supporting data. The program will launch in the summer of 2007 with the prospect of reaching an even larger audience.

CONTACT: Arece Hampton, (206) 733-9137

Need for Materials

As we head in to the summer festival season, please keep in mind that if your water utility is running short on SWP hand-outs don't hesitate to contact me. Let me know what you need and I'll get it over to you in time for your event. All printed material (Plant List, Natural Yard Care, ect) will continue to go through Liz Fikejs.

CONTACT: Arece Hampton, (206) 733-9137

Liz Fikejs (206) 615-0516

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE

Keeping Gardeners Informed

Starting later this summer, customers will be able to sign up for our new e-newsletter, *The Savvy Gardener Connection*. Over the past two years of classes, staff has collected email addresses of gardeners who want to learn more. *The Savvy Gardener Connection*, delivered seasonally, will provide gardening advice from local landscaping experts, news about events such as Northwest Natural Yard Days and Savvy Gardener classes, highlights of the Natural Lawn & Garden guides, automatic irrigation tips and spotlights of the latest "garden story." Staff is working with SPU's Web Team to post a page on

www.savingwater.org that will allow gardeners to subscribe. Eventually this page will also include archived editions of the newsletter.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, 206-615-0516

savvy gardener

Inspiring Customers to Make Landscape Changes

One of the most popular Savvy Gardener classes over the past two years has taken place in a Shoreline landscape designer's garden. Attendees wanted to hear straight from the designer how she transformed her lawn into lush borders and enjoyed seeing the end result. These classes have been limited both by our budget and by the number of people that can fit in one garden at a time.

To reach more people, SWP is now recruiting gardeners to share their “garden stories.” Gardeners are encouraged to submit a description along with before and after photos. Staff will follow up with stories that best emulate the “natural gardening” practices we teach and also inspire through their aesthetic qualities. Ultimately, these stories will appear on www.savingwater.org and will include the challenges, solutions, maintenance practices, favorite resources and potentially plant lists and site plans.

Our goal is to collect a wide variety of stories that provide how-to’s, personal recommendations and inspiring photos. Currently, staff is working on four stories, but they are all in Seattle. Please contact Liz Fikejs if you know of customers who might be good candidates in your service area. A printed flier will be available in late June for distribution.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, 206-615-0516

Exploring Stronger Partnerships with Molbak’s Nursery

Molbak’s Nursery is one of the most significant garden center anchors in the SWP service area. Not only is their customer base large and far reaching, but as partners they lead other retailers in distributing the Naturals guides, discounting water conservation garden products, hosting classes and more. Staff initiated a discussion with the owner to determine if additional partnerships would be welcome. Indeed, Jens Molbak provided welcome feedback on current SWP irrigation programs and was open to working together on customer research and promoting conservation in new ways. Follow up discussions will take place with Molbak’s, SPU and Woodinville Water District staff.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, 206-615-0516

Water Better - With the Weather

For those customers who water their lawn and garden, the Seattle area’s Watering Index can help

give plants just what they need. The index is a percentage of the maximum amount of water plants need. In July, a lawn typically needs 100% to stay green, however the index fluctuates with changing weather conditions and length of day. Simply adjust your watering by the index: For example a 50% index means you should water half as much, a 75% index means you should water 3/4 as much as you would during July. The Watering



Index Steve Pool, KOMO News Weather, will broadcast the index daily or it can be found at www.iwms.org. Customers can check the forecast before deciding to water and use the index to

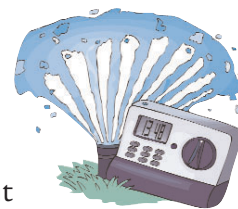
determine how much to adjust watering. In the next few weeks, Steve Pool will be presenting more information about how to use the index and watering on some TV spots scheduling near his news weather promos.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

Automatic Sprinkler Systems Landscapes

Watering with automatic in-ground sprinkler systems can be a drain on the wallet. Adjust watering schedules often with the index to save water and money. Simply input the Watering Index into the sprinkler clock by using the “seasonal adjust,” “water budget” or “percent adjust” feature found on most new model controllers. Sprinkler System Rebates are still available for customers who don’t have the special features on their sprinkler system clocks that make adjusting watering schedules simple or a rain sensor that automatically shuts off the system when it rains. For more information, visit www.savingwater.org.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955



Tips for Managing Irrigation Systems

Free, simple on-line tools take the confusion out of scheduling and managing an automatic irrigation

system. Visit www.iwms.org and check out the “Seattle” area for free irrigation scheduling and water budget calculators, plus important watering information based on real-time weather data.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

COMMERCIAL

New Incentive Program

A new rebate has been added to the Water Smart Technology program. SWP will be partnering with Puget Sound Energy on an efficient food steamer rebate. Total rebate to eligible customers is \$1,250 with \$500 coming from the Saving Water Partnership. A food steamer is typically a stand-alone kitchen device used for cooking and/or warming food with steam. Without proper controls and condensate recirculation, water and energy is wasted. Technology for food steamers has greatly improved the energy and water performance to where it is now recommended in most cases to replace an older inefficient unit with a new efficient model.

CONTACT: Phil Paschke, (206) 684-5883

SPU’s 2007 Water System Plan Public Review Draft & Public Meetings

Starting July 20th SPU’s 2007 Water System Plan (WSP) Public Review Draft will be available on SPU’s website for review by wholesale and retail customers. SPU’s wholesale customers have

provided valuable input along the way in the development of key elements of this plan, including the 2011- 2030 conservation goal, which was approved by the Operating Board. SPU will hold four public meetings on the draft plan, two in SPU’s retail area and two in SPU’s wholesale area. The meetings will be held locations in August with times and locations provided in the July edition of the LEAK.

While the WSP is a requirement of the State Department of Health, SPU has prepared the plan also to serve as the primary long-term guide for the water utility. It includes important new and updated policies for the utility, as well as service levels and plans of actions for each business area within the water utility. It reinforces SPU’s commitments to:

- Ensuring long-term high-quality water supply while protecting instream resources,
- Using Asset Management principles in business decisions throughout the utility to stretch available resources and make best use of existing assets,
- Continuing to be a leader in water conservation,
- Being customer-driven, and
- Working together with other regional water providers to address regional water issues.

SPU Contact: Joan Kersnar (206) 684-0839